Amnsements and Meetings.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.-Italian Opera: "Akla." BOOTH's THEATER.-At 1:30 and 8: "Little Em'ly." Barnum's Roman Hippodrome.-Every afternoon at 2 and evening at 3.

Bryant's Opera House.-Minstrels.

DALY'S FIFTH AVENUE THEATER. -At 1:30 and 8: " Pyg-malion and Galatea."

GRAND OPERA HOUSE. - At 1:30 and 8: "The Black LYCEUM THEATER.—English Opera Bouffe: "Madame L'Archidic." Miss Emily Soidene. NIBLO'S THEATER.—Roberts's Panfomime Troupe. OLYMPIC THEATER .- At 1:50 and 8: " Up Town and Down

PARK THEATER.—At 1:30 and 8: "The Gilded Age." John T. Raymon i. San Francisco Minstrels.—Eirch and Wambold. Union Square Turater.-" The Two Orphans," WALLACK'S TREATER .- "The Shaughraun." Dion Bouci-

ROBINSON HALL-" Begone Dull Care," Mr. Maccabe

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Advertisements received at up-town offices, 54; W. \$2d-st., or 308 W. 23d-st.; at the Harlem Office. 2,336 Fourth-ave., between 139th and 130th-sts; and at the Brooklyn Branch Office. 323 Washington-st., next door to the Post-office. till 8 p. m. at regular rates.

The TRIBUNE IN ETHOPS.—An office for Tribune Advertisements and Subscriptions is now open in London, No. 84 First. E. C. All English and Continental advertisements intended for insertion in THE NEW-YORK TRIBUNE SHOULD be sent direct to the London Office. Subscriptions for any period will be received at the same office, and single copies of the paper may always be obtained.

During the construction of the front of the new Tribune training the constitution of the front of the life in the first building. The Pribune Office may be found in the first building in the rear on Spruce-st. The Tribune Counting koom is on the first floor, and is entered at the second door down Spruce-st. from the old site.

New-Dork Daily Tribune.

FOUNDED BY HORACE GREELEY

FRIDAY, JANUARY 1, 1875.

TRIPLE SHEET.

Alfonso, Prince of Asturias, has been proclaimed King of Spain by the armies of the North and Center. Marshal Serrano and the Ministers are said to acquiesce. Alfonso will go to Spain immediately. The Minister of the Interior has issued a circular authouncing these events.

It is thought that a union of the two centers of the French Assembly is possible. The question of a reorganization of the Cabinet is settled.

Goy.-elect Tilden will be inaugurated at Albany today. The ceremonies will be more imposing than usual. == The new oath for elective State officers goes into effect to-day; 34 Democrats and 20 Republicans have already taken the old oath. --- King Kalakaus and anite went to New-Haven, where be cordiatly received by the municipal authori-ties. The party afterward went to New-Bedford. Gen. Ogden, Chief of the Louisiana White League, testified before the Congressional Investigating Committee, regarding the objects of the White League. Other testimeny went to show that the presence of the United States soldiers prevented people from voting. - The Congressional Committee to investigate the Mississippi troubles began work at Vicksburg. Mayor O'Leary and Gen. Miller, who commanded the white forces in the recent fighting testified, giving details of the origin and culmination of the troubles.

The Sub-Committee conducting the Pacific Mail invesnesses, including ex-Vice-President Bellows, Rufus Hatch, and many of the former directors. - Park Commissioner Bissinger resigned. ---- The Mayor, in a letter to the Controller, criticised the methods of the Finance Department. ==== Thermometer, 90, 120, 100 Gold, 112, 1124, 1124. Gold value of the legal tender dollar, 88 9-10 cents.

Postmaster-General Jewell shows no lagging in his warfare upon the abuses that have disgraced his department. He begins the new year with a blow at the straw-bid system : certainly he can find few better fields for the display of his zeal for reform.

Two Committees are investigating the Vicksburg troubles; one representing the Federal Congress, and the other the State Legislature. The Congressional Committee holds an open session and seems to be striving after truth. The Legislative Committee sits with closed investigation is ex parte.

constitutionality of theater liceuse fees and of fellow may very well get through his hundred proceeds gradually rising from the \$6,000 in seekers in Madrid. He will stay, surrounded their appropriation by law to a charitable pur- calls to-day. Let every lady think how her September, 1809, to \$12,237 in September, 1873, by thieves and courtesans, until in some

All the negotiations between leaders of different groups in the French Assembly only result in the possibility of a union of the two Centers. The statement amounts to almost nothing; such a contingency was as near consummation at any time during the last year as it is to-day.

Mr. Vance passes out of the Mayoralty, after a brief month's service, with the high respect of good citizens of all parties. It has rarely happened to a gentleman unexpectedly called to such responsibilities to accept them more manfully, or discharge them more to the general satisfaction. We think highly of Mr. Wickham, and yet we shall be well satisfied if, in the main, and throughout its entire duration, his administration should be as generally satisfactory and open to objection on as few points as that which closed last night.

Albany now looms up as the center of political interest. The inauguration of Gov. Tilden, the organization of the new Legislature, and the election of a United States Senator are the topics that will engage attention during the coming week. Our full and interesting dispatches give the latest news and gossip of the capital. The opposition to Tammany Hall has been active, but seems to lack cohesive power, and will hardly be strong enough to effect the election of an anti-Tammany candidate for anything more than a subordinate office in the Assembly. As to the Senatorship, Mr. Kernan remains the favorite, with a possibility at least of the nomination of ex-Gov. Seymour, notwithstanding his positive declination.

Through an error in proof-reading THE TRIBUNE yesterday was made to say that the gift of Five Handred Dollars for the prizes in the Intercollegiate contest of the 7th of January was from Mr. John J. Astor. It was from Mrs. Astor that this generous gift to the collegians came, and we hope that any papers which have copied our paragraph will correct the accidental error by stating this fact, which adds a double grace and value to the prizes to be conferred. It is the more desirable since Mrs. Astor has personally taken a special interest in the matter, and has been desirous that the students should receive such encouragement as would tend to the establishment of the contest in an annually recurring intercollegiate competition.

of the directors as to the most important affairs yesterday in the testimony of several who recalled their child-like confidence in the ability and good intentions of Mr. Stockwell. In fact, Mr. Stockwell undoubtedly had those days, as Mr. Masterson said, "Pacific "Mail itself." Mr. Bellows, the ex-Vice-President, seems to have known sometestimony does not show exactly how far this knowledge went, but it exhibits a wonderful | lar election. familiarity with the subterfuges to which resort was made in covering Mr. Irwin's tracks.

A dispatch from Albany, giving the names of the members of the new State Government who have made haste to subscribe to the old to so plain and so wicked a cheat. But that oath of office before it became inoperative by limitation, will be scanned with much interest and lead to a good many speculations not unmixed with mistrust. Nor can one whose name appears on the list justly complain if suspicions are awakened, when it is remembered that those who have thus been sworn tion, why not in other States? Why not, in have escaped the necessity of declaring on especially in the States of the South, where, oath that they "have not directly or indirectly upon the pretext of preserving order and sup-"money or other valuable thing as a con- used to back up the iniquities of a dishonest "sideration or reward for the giving or withmember shall wish to relieve himself of disagreeable suspicions, we suppose there can be no objection to his subscribing to the new oath | the American People have had to deal with in before an officer qualified to administer it, the past fifteen years, or perhaps ever before.

gating Louisiana affairs have gone about their work in a business-like way that gives promise of thoroughness, and must win for their report respectful attention from both political parties. United States Marshal Packard, who is popularly supposed to be the main stay of the Kellogg Government, was examined on Wednesday, and on yesterday Gen. Ogden, the chief officer of the White Leagues in New-Orleans, was the principal witness. Gen. Ogden's statement is particularly interesting as the first official declaration of the purposes | the leading statesmen who manage them, are and methods of an organization which has been prominent and not less influential in all the recent exciting scenes in Louisiana. Gen. Ogden laid the constitution of the Association before the Committee, and we hope they will soon let us see whether it is, as charged by its enemies, a secret order on the Ku-Klux plan, or, as its members claim, simply an organization of citizens for defense against have on hand a sufficient number of Returnthe oppressions of a usurping government. This Committee ought not to leave New-Orleans until they have probed the Louisiana question to the very bottom; and fixed the responsibility for the misgovernment of the State and the deplorable condition of the people exactly where it belongs.

In asking our readers to refrain this day from putting temptation in the way of their young visitors, we do not base our appeal upon any question of total abstinence. Even those who use wine every day at their own tables may with perfect consistency decline to offer and the establishment of a permanent relief it to eallers upon this particular day of the year. Many thousands of young men start out this morning with the intention of making as many calls as possible before nightfall. They are not all as steady and wise as Cato. Very many are shy and susceptible. If they are offered an innocent glass of wine by a pretty woman in an exquisite toilet, they will not know how to refuse gracefully. They will drink the glass of sherry as the easiest way to dispose of it, and will repeat this each repetition it will be harder to refuse, doors, and the white people protest that its The appetite may not increase, but the self-control will certainly diminish; and a great many nice young men will be mourn-The decision rendered by Judge Davis ful spectacles in the evening. No woman likes

of the theater managers. This question is the Year's Days of New-York. An energetic young by the employes in each succeeding year, the sweetheart or husband would look after one and \$26,373 in September, 1874, the total, with quarrel among themselves he takes the losing hundred drinks, and forbear to tempt others interest, amounting to about \$36,600. Of this, side, and the winners drive him away.

ELECTIONS BY RETURNING BOARDS.

If a Returning Board in Louisiana may canvaso the votes for Legislature and State officers, and work their own sweet will with the have been dependent in their great necessity returns, throwing out such as they please and counting such as suit their purpose, why may they not do it in other States? If they may declare a Legislature elected which is not and disquisition on the ordinary societies formed is hardly pretended to be the choice of the people, why may they not exercise the same power in counting the votes for Presidential by limiting the amount or term of labor, or Electors, and so elect the President and Vice- by barring out apprentices to keep up the de-President by Returning Boards instead of by the people? The action of the Louisiana Returning Board, if sustained by the Administra- tion; as to their cause, they have, it is certain, tion and by Congress, as it now bids fair to be under the rule of the caucus, will not be tween the employer and employed, which is a simply an outrage upon the people of that State, an overthrow in that State merely of this country, is too apt to have a gradge the republican form of government. It must against the man who pays him money, for be held as a precedent. It will govern the no deeper reason than that the employer conduct of future elections. It will have just has the fuller pocket. He is at pains, therefore, as much force in a Presidential as in a State election, and even should it not be followed in other States, there may an emergency arise in which the Returning Board of Louisiana express it, "boss" not only himself but his could, under this precedent, choose a President employer. However successful his secieties of the United States who would not be the and unions may be for this purpose, or howchoice of the people.

The violence done by the proceedings of this Board to all our notions of popular elections, and the absolute disregard of what we are instances will suggest themselves to our readapt to consider the sanctity of the ballot, the very essence of republican institutions, are employers and employed were leagued tohardly appreciated here at the North. For gether by every available bond of interest these men now hardly make the pretense of considering the votes actually cast and counted cess were startling from their magnitude, as indicating in any way the result. At other times and elsewhere there have been com- to face would do more to bring capiplaints-too often well grounded-of frauds in tal and labor into harmony in indielections perpetrated in a variety of ways vidual instances than any amount of fine-spun and by various cheating methods. But we have never known a case before where the the Company were ranged side by side by returns of whole precincts were deliberately thrown aside by the dozen and by the score, voters disfranchised and cheated of their rights by the hundred and the thousand, upon the most frivolous pretexts, for the obvious and unmistakable purpose of defeating the expressed will of the voters. In all the history-bad as it is and as we must confess it to be of election frauds in this country. against districter or sickness, and with slight we have never had anything which in shame- alteration might be converted into an efficient less effrontery, brazen audacity, and reckless One of the most amazing things about this disregard of even the forms of law and the ap-Pacific Mail business is the ignorance of many pearance of fairness, can approach the contemplated outrage upon Louisiana. Under the of the Company. This was further illustrated rulings of this Board there might as well have been no voting done. For no matter how many votes were cast against the candidates of the Kellogg Ring, the members of this Board had only to bring forward some trumped good reason to think that he was in up affidavit-easily enough obtained from any of their creatures-charging intimidation or undue influencing of voters, and the whole of them were thrown out and minority candithing about the new famous \$750,000. His dates declared elected. It was not in any sense, under the rulings of the Board, a popu-

It seems almost incredible that such villainy should be allowed to go on to success, and that the Republican party in Congress should be bullied by the Administration and its leaders into giving countenance and support does seem to be the purpose of the party managers. What excess can there be for it? None whatever, except that the Administration must be sustained. But if this sort of thing is done in Louisiana in the interest of the Administra-"they were elected," and that they "have isolated case, or to dismiss it because, as Presi-"not made any promise to influence the giv- | dent Grant said at Long Branch last Summer, ing or withholding of any such vote." If a we "don't want to be bothered with "it;" but there is more danger in every step of this business than in anything even though it is not now required of him by A party that has become reckless and giddy with long-continued power is on the brink of defeat, and it knows it. For no purpose The Congressional Committee now investi- except to retain its hold, it consents to a great wrong and outrage, and undertakes to annul the action of a popular majority. It has the look of desperation. It will bear the interpretation of a purpose to perpetuate its power

at any hazard. Of course there is no danger. There never is. There was none the last time a great party went out of power. No danger. Everybody said so. But between 1861 and 1865 the country learned to its sorrow that though the individual men who compose great parties, and patriotic and well-meaning persons, who would not for the world do harm to anybody, yet there is in the conglomerate of party a spirit of desperation, which can work wondrous havoc when it is thwarted. The Democratic party did not go out of power quietly. Its successor will not go out at all if it can only fortify itself with precedents, and

mg Boards. A PLAN FOR THE NEW YEAR. A suggestive little pamphlet has been placed before us, which we briefly epitomize for the benefit of such of our readers as are working men. Immediately after the disaster in the Avondale Mine in 1869 a meeting of the employés of the Wilkesbarre Coal and Iron Company was held, at which it was generously resolved that, as the Company proposed to give the use of their entire works for one day for the relief of the Avondale sufferers, fund, they, the employes, should give one to their unhappy kingdom. Their incapacity day's work for the same purpose; one thousand dollars of the proceeds to go to the Avondale sufferers, the remainder to be held for the relief of men injured in their own mines. The amount earned in this one day's lent at interest to the Company. By the rules afterwards adopted by the workmen, this fund could be drawn upon in case of aecident, \$50 being paid for funeral expenses in

on last September nearly \$42,000 had been paid out to the widows and orphaned children of members killed in the mines, or to the men themselves when injured. Relief was thus afforded to 430 sufferers, who otherwise would upon the money they might have laid by, or upon the charity of their fellow workmen.

It is not our purpose now to enter into any among workmen. The usual object of all such associations is to control the work and wages mand. Whether just or wise, or even politic in their effects, is nothing to the present quesa common origin in a sense of antagonism bemisapprehension. The laborer, especially in to bring about war between their interests; to take the place of command in their busi ness transactions, and, as he would himself over well founded on injustice, it is no less pertain that he suffers the dangers and losses of a state of war. One or two well-known ers (certain works at Sheffield, notably) where and sympathy, and where the results of suc-Usually common sense and plain talk face theory. In the present case the employes and sympathy in a terrible case of human suffering; but they have worked harmoniously and heartily since then, for their mutual benefit. We commend the scheme of the Wilkesbarre miners to all workingmen who are devising new plans for the coming year. It need not necessarily be connected with their employers; it is a simple, safe, and certain provision plan of mutual life insurance.

THE ALFONSIST CONSPIRACY. Less than a week ago we were discussing

he probability of a restoration in Spain of the Bourbon dynasty, and although there was little to indicate an immediate movement in that direction, we warned our readers of the wide range of contingencies within which the conspirators of the barracks and the emissaries of the exiled family find their sphere of action. It would seem from the news we print this morning that even before that time the conspiracy for a pronunciamiento had been well nigh perfected, and that the fatuous speech of Don Alfonso to the grandees who visited him, announcing his readiness to come to Spain and make everybody bappy, was merely part of the preliminary comedy which was to prepare the country for the practical demonstration by the army. Yesterday morning we announced that Gen. Martinez Campos had pronounced with two battalions in favor of Don Alfonso, and had marched upon Murviedro, in the province of Valencia. Accompanying this dispatch, however, was the statement that a portion of the Republican Army of the North had been detached from the pursuit of the Carlists and sent to put down this new insurrection. No one wastes his credulity too much upon Span-"paid, offered, or promised to contribute any pressing "bloody outrages," the army may be ish news, but if any inference were drawn from these statements it would be that Gen. to dawn. He was a leading spiritualist and registry and a corrupt Returning Board? It Martinez Campos had pronounced upon his "holding of a vote at the election at which is very well to say that this is only an own responsibility, and that Marshal Serrano was inclined to try conclusions at once with the Alfonsist party. But the later news bore an entirely different face. The revolt in Valencia was by no means an isolated crime. It was shared in Madrid and throughout the army. It is now reported that the entire military force of the armies of the North and Center thas joined the Alfonsist insurrection. and that it receives the acquiescence of Marshal Serrano and the ministry. If this news is not exaggerated, there is nothing to prevent the return to Spain, the solemn proclamation and coronation of the

son of Isabel II. He is a youth of seventeen years, not strong either in body or mind. He is universally regarded in Spain as illegitimate. He has no claim whatever upon the throne except that he is the son of his mother, who was as bad a woman as queen. Her mother was like herself, and her father, if possible, worse. For four generations the line is utterly corrupt and worthless. Since Charles III. no one can point to a good reign, we may almost say to a good action, of a Spanish sovereign; of course we except the unfortunate experiment of Amadeus of Savoy, who was a gentleman at least. But Charles IV. and his son Ferdinand were not gentlemen in any sense of the word. They were cowardly, treacherous, untruthful, weak, and personally dishonest. Queen Christine and Queen Isabel were not ladies; it is not possible to call them so without casting derision upon the name. They were unfaithful rulers, unfaithful wives, not honest even in money matters. Both the Kings and both the Queens we have mentioned broke their word so frequently that no one could trust them. Their public character was as bad as their private. We do not accuse them of being the cause of all the misery which Spain has suffered for the last century. Even the best of Kings, like Charles III. for instance, could not make Spain happy. But it is as clear as day that these sovereigns. while doing no good have done infinite harm as rulers was as evident as their immorality as individuals. Their acts were as noxions as their example.

The last of the race, Don Alfonso, has this bad blood in his veins. It is his only claim to work proved to be \$6,000, of which \$5,000 was the crown be seeks. It is useless to say he has any other. He has no such claim as heirsapparent, like the Prince of Wales, or pretenders like the Prince Imperial of France, or even like his cousin Don Carlos. The last clever device as often as they are asked. At case of accidental death, and \$3 per week for represents the Catholic religion and divine one year to the widow, and \$1 per week to each right; young Bonaparte represents the imorphan child for the same time. To each man perial system; the Prince of Wales represents injured in or about the mines, \$6 per week | the British Constitution. But Don Alfonso has was paid during his disability to work, and to no principle behind him. He will grant any each boy \$3 per week. Each new comer to constitution the brigand-generals who bring in the case of Lester Wallack against the her friends to drink too much, and if she the mines was obliged to give one day's labor him in, ask for. His family care as little for Society for the Reformation of Juvenile De- offers them no wine to-day she will have a to the fund before he could be entitled to its political consistency as personal honor. If he

soldiers, in league with a cabil of office-

A NEW-YEAR'S STORY.

All of our readers who knew Horrey, the reformer, will remember that he chose New Year's for his wedding-day. "There is to me," he said, "a deep symbolism in this point. I, even I, have come to help usher in the new year of the world." And at that his fine eyes flashed, and his whole figure expanded. Horrey did not measure five feet four in his boots, but his disciples always thought of him as a tall man. His disciples had firm faith in Horrey; he was to them a John the Baptist in coat and trowsers, and Pennsylvanian church-Tarrytown the wilderness in which be preached. Rhoda Nott was willing to marry him on New Year's, or on any day; she was heartily in love with him, but he never, as long as they lived, could find out whether she thought of him as John the Baptist or not. His disciples said that the marriage was the encasing and debasing of fine spirit with common clay; and nobody could deny that Rhoda was commonplace. The matter-of-fact fairles, who preside at the birth of eight out of ten girls, had given her the usual unnoticeable figure and ordinary features, had added no especial gift of genius, and made her the daughter of the village storekeeper. Yet everybody in the ounty (barring the said disciples) felt that Horrey had done a wrong to them personally in taking Rhoda away. The middle-aged women in their black silks and faise "fronts' declared the sewing circles could not go on without her; there was not one of their husands but had some favorite old song which he had taken pains to learn for him. " Why did you young fellows let that wind-bag Horrey carry off Nott's daughter," they said to their sons. "She's humly, may be, but she's a girl to count in." The young fellows had always been used to swarm around her and leave the prettier girls in the corner, but at the wedding they stood aloof, conscious that Horrey had taken away something which they could never replace, a friend who was nearer than a sister and more clear-sighted than a wife. The truth was that the girl, with her broad, sweet nature and honest gayety, was like a well of water in bigoted, carping Tarrytown. Any-body, even the old farmers, talking to her for an hour, gained youth from her, and went away with a new ring in their voices, hearty and genial. Rhoda shook hands with them all, but bade nobody good-by. She took all her friends into her married life with her just as Rachel of old did her household gods. In fact this young woman never lost a friend out of her life. She might not see them for years, but they turned to ber as faithful as the bits of steel are to the magnet forever after it has once touched them. People from Tarrytown, when they came to this city, always went over to the Jersey town,

where the Horreys lived, to spend a day with Rhoda. They brought back word from time to time of her large family, "a great table "full of boys and girls, and always spare plates laid in case a friend should drop in." There were no carpets on the floors, they reported, and the boys and girls were dressed n jeans and calico. "Money was terribly scarce and Rhody gave the children the best of schooling, and kept open house for friends and the poor. There was a piano, too, and the boys played on the violin and a merrier house could not be found. Rhody as young and plump as the youngest there." They actually seemed to bring a whiff of youth and freshness back with them to Tarrytown. Horrey, as we constantly heard from the newspapers, was playing pioneer first gave up all concerns of this world for that revealed by the Fishes and Foxes. took the money which Rhoda had laid aside to buy a cow, and shoes for the boys (she supported the family by sewing then) to go out to Ohio to investigate McKain' hut, where spiritual trombones and fiddles has just been heard. "But the shoes for the children?" she said. "They must learn to bear for the truth," he replied; "through rough ways to the stars." "We'll not go barefooted to the stars at any rate, boys," she said when he went out, laughing, but the water stood in her eyes. She opened a little store after that and prospered. Rich and poor felt the fine quality in the woman, the strong gentleness; the rich pushed her children on and the poor prayed for her and them. Horrey, next Winter, went to India as a missionary. The reforming spirit appears to direct so entirely the nervous energy and noble efforts of a man to the enlightenment of Humanity, that nothing is left for his wife and children but the ashes of the flame; in fact, it is generally advisable that his reforms should be carried on at as great a distance as possible from his family. Horrey came back the other day, old and broken down, after his five years' sojourn, having influenced (he hoped) two boys to consider the Christian religion. The New Year had begun to dawn, he said, by India's coral strand. He found a strange silence in the little town, and a great concourse of people tending to one point. "Was any public man dead?" be asked. They told him, No, only a good woman; but she had been a friend to all of them. He went with the crowd, for it was going toward his own house, Among them he saw that there were many little children, and many of the very poorest poor, and he knew from their words there was not one there who was not the better and hopefuler and nearer to Christ because this woman had lived. He found her at last with her children about her and covered with flowers, and on her sweet face the smile of one who is at home at last with all her friends about her. Not one forgotten or left behind. In this New Year's season, when so many romen open their hearts and homes to cheer

n open their hearts and unfitting to friends, we thought it not unfitting to recall this woman, who in her gracious hos-pitality made of her whole life a New Year's

Mr. Poole, the accomplished Chicago Librarian, in eviewing the tenth volume of Bancroft's History of the United States, warmly consures the publishers for neglecting to provide a General Index to the whole work. This is a convenience which he conceives publishers to be under " a moral obligation to furnish to the purchaser of the History. Mc. Poole, with an earnestness which is not at all unbecoming, says: "Our copyright laws should be so amended that no writer of history could maintain his privileges under it unless he or his publisher furnished a General Index." But Mr. Poole, in the course of his extensive bibliographical studies, must have met with many an Index which was vorse bear the part so conscientiously and intelligently linquents, settles the main question involved clear conscience to-night. The day promises to the satisfaction of the public, if not to that to form an exception to the usual soppy New-

ance, and which continually sent the distracted reader to the wrong page, unless he found upon the right one something which he did n't want at aff. An Index is like the estalogue of a large library; is requires genius and learning and a thorongo knowlto make a good one. Most modern Indexes appear
to be the production of boys in the publishing
houses, and give those who consult them hardly any
ciews except these furnished by the names of persons
and piaces. This is a cheap and discr putable way of
avoiding trouble, and usually ends in a perfect notpie of the important and the mamportant, of the
significant and the insurations of a few thines to
be remembered and of many things which may be
forgotten with impunity. Authors, as a rule, are
not good index-tunkers; and every great bookhouse should employ some accomplished person to
do the work, and pay him liberally for doing it. requires genius and learning and a thorongs knowl-

THE WESTERN SUFFERERS.

SOME NEW YEAR'S GIFTS. THE GRASSITOPPER BURDEN.

To the Editor of The Iribane Sin: Until the late foreible illustration in Ne. brasks I never restized what is meant in the Bible where the grasshopper is declared a burden. Most cheerfully do I reamond to the "one dellar containment on suggestion, and herewith hand you that onit toward lightening that burden. Yours, &a., J. B. GOTHER. New Orleans, Christmas, 1874.

AN OLD, MAR'S DOLLAR. To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sin: I am an old man, past 69. I have long been a reader of Trie Tarauvii. Dollars are not very plenty with me, but I realize the fact that I shall need but a few mere. I therefore send one for the

Nebraska sufferers. May it do them good.

Waterbury, Conn., Dec. 29, 1874 A LITPLE GLICE'S NEW YEAR'S PRINCIPLE

To the Editor of The Tribune.

SIR: I SEND YOU SI WRITER I HAVE TAKEN PROM THE PERNIES IN MY POOR BOX. I WAST IT TO US FOR A NEW YEAR'S PRESENT TO THE GRASHOPPER PROPER IN KANSAS, FATURE SAYS I AM A POGS SCRIBE, BUT I AM ONLY SEVEN YEARS OLD. L.VA.

PLAINFIELD, N. J., DEC. 29, 1874. A SUNDAY SCHOOL CONCERT.
To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sin: Inclosed please and draft for \$8 25, it being the amount of a collection taken at the censert of the Congregational Church Sunday-school, for the famine-stricken of Kansas and Nebraska. Yours T. C. Jawerr, Superintendent. Moraria, Dec. 30, 1874

YOUNG MEN'S QU'T. To the Editor of The Tribuns

SIR: I inclose with this note an order for the sorn of \$10, from the Young Men's Christian Association of the Prosbyterian Church here, for the Kanass and Nebraska distress. James Warrascond, Sec. 7. Pittston, Pa., Dec. 29, 1873. Tot AND MITES.

SIR: Inclosed I hand you \$1 for the Kaness and Nebraska fund. After reading such accords as

Tot " and " Mites," which teach so much himse dy, a seems impossible not to give. Yours, kerly.

Bethtehem, Pa., Dec. 30, 1874. Correctata. A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO THE SUFFEREIS. To the Editor of The Trybune

Siz: Inclosed find 85; may it sarry a bappy New

Year to some of the poor Kansas sufferers. And lot me, a constant reader of your paper, add tay I-w Words of thanks for the zeal you display in this good. "Mrnis Literary" Plainfield, N. J. Dec. 30, 1874.

Fred'k Schaefer, Detroit, Mich. \$200
A-e, J-c, A-e, Geo, Miller, Riverhead. \$200
M. H. and S. M. A. Avidaw Irov \$200
M. L. Norwich Com. 200
M. Avidaw Irov \$200
M. Avidaw Irov \$200
M. Avidaw Irov \$200
M. Avidaw Irov \$200 M. H. and S. M. J., Norwich, Conn. 2 00 Auston Trowbridge, formulalk, Bethle- Toledo, Ohio Toledo, Gornacalk, Bethlehem, Pa. 1 00 Collection
customers of Burt
& Bradner, Bellselfand Strate Control of Strates
Str Total\$80 10 Church, Pittston, Pa.....10 00

KANSAS. Eva, Plainfield, N. J. \$1 J. E. Bacon, Spencer, Mass. \$3 Cash 1 Mass Licht, Plain-Plainfield Family.... NEBRASKA.

A Reader of The Trib-Nebraska total \$4

Kansas..... Total. \$5,627 38 Forwarded to Kansas and Nebraska. 4,500 00 Balance in haud......\$1,127 38

MUSIC.

CLOSE OF THE OPERA SEASON. Mr. Strakosch brings to a close this evening

the most unsatisfactory season of opera he has ever

given in America. Outside of New York he has med

mecessful, though he has obtained large audiences for rocks. None of his actists except Miss Albani bus secome popular, and the two additions to the reperiory, 'Ruy Bias' and the Regulon Mass have both fail d. There has been no serious attempt to keep the promise of a fair mise en scene held out to us at the begraning of the season. The stage management has remained as aefficient as ever. The slight amendment perceptible as first in the chorus vanished almost before we had time ries have been diligently engaged in forgetting all they ever learned. With the help of the precises which he acquired last year Mr. Strakesch had a tine chance to raise the standard of operatio represents tions, and win for them the support of a large class of music lovers who nowadays are seidom seen at the Academy of Music; but he has disappointed us, and allowed the opera to fall back to its old condition of mediocrity. "Lohengrin" on Monday was slovenly. Don Glovanni" on Wednesday was presented with nore care, but still was not good. How captivating must be the music of this perentially fresh creation which is never well sung in New York, and yet is always sung to a full house. Year after year when the weary public turns away in displeasure from the Academy doors, the Commendatore puts on his marble clock and climbs upon the old white horse; Lepercho fetches his catalogge, and Zerlina her lass trimmed petticout, and presto! the public comes trooping back again. Take them all in all, they have been for the most part but a sorry company of artists who have masquereded before us in this drams. Asna, Eivira, Zerlina. Materio, the unid Ottavie, the dushing Den, the impudget valet-how hockingly they have all been represented at one time or another; but the worst of them could not rule this the nominal mosts. Morart triumples over his numerathy interpreters. The familiar strains never loss there beauty. "Li er dareau la mano" takes the judgment captive. "Vedrai carine" disarms the critic. The Trio is indestructible. The Minuel series the fancy, though t be danced by snabby characters and sing by a Leparello who cannot keep time; and out of all the burly burly of scrambling finale, and labored solo, and andifferent quinter spring always the beautiful intrie dowers of melody which decorate every line of this wonderful score. Mr. Strakosch certainly should a keen sense of the commercial value of Mozart when he risked the experiment upon the good nature of pairons which was tried on Wodnesday. We do not remember to have heard any other performance of " Don Giovanni" with only one competent artist in the cast Miss Albani's Zerting was attractive and sweet, as all her personations are, and if it was less impressive than some of her other roles, and less naive and spirited than it ought to have been, it was at least a great comfort to